

# COALITION FOR GAY RIGHTS IN ONTARIO

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## THE ONTARIO HUMAN RIGHTS OMISSION

A BRIEF TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE









# Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario Coalition pour les droits des gai(e)s en Ontario

June, 1981

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## A Message to Persons Reading This Brief:

This brief was instigated as a result of the exclusion of gay people from protection under the new Ontario Human Rights Code, introduced in the Ontario Legislature on April 24, 1981. This omission was based on a "political decision of the Cabinet", in the words of Labour Minister Dr. Robert Elgie. We believe that the failure to give the gay minority equal protection from discrimination makes a mockery of human rights in Ontario. As documented here and elsewhere, men and women are being murdered, brutally attacked, fired from jobs, evicted from their homes, and deprived access to publicly-available services, strictly on the basis of their suspected sexual orientation. They have nowhere to turn for support.

Ultimately, the adjustment of our society to the homosexual minority in its midst will require a great deal of education and dedicated effort on the part of individuals. Whether you are gay or not, there are things that you can do to make things better for the present and future generations. Here are a few suggestions:

- Write to your member of the Provincial Legislature, c/o Queen's Park, Toronto, urging her or him to support the amendment of the Ontario Human Rights Code to give equal protection from discrimination to all citizens on the basis of sexual orientation. Send us a copy of your letters, at the address listed below.
- Take the initiative where you work, at your school, or where you live to discourage acts of discrimination, verbal abuse, or violence against members of minorities, visible or otherwise. Freedom is a state of mind, not an act of law.
- Join the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario as an individual member, and urge your friends to join. You might also consider joining Friends and Families of Lesbians and Gays (FFLAG). Write to us for details.
- Help organize gay people in your locality. We can help you out with educational materials, speakers, and other support to bring people together. Write to us for details.
- Arrange to have this brief and other educative materials placed in libraries and schools in your locality. Write to us for details on how to do this.

We hope to hear from you!

Truly,

Jim Monk, Chairperson  
Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario

Report on the ...  
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...

...



## Résumé

Le présent exposé est le troisième à être présenté aux membres de l'Assemblée législative de l'Ontario par des représentants de la minorité gay depuis la dernière révision du Code des droits de la personne de l'Ontario, survenue en 1972. Une fois de plus, nous apportons des arguments de poids pour appuyer l'inclusion du terme "orientation sexuelle" parmi les motifs de discrimination interdits par le Code.

Le présent document expose certains des meurtres, voies de fait, cas de discrimination et harcèlement survenus à travers la province dans le cadre d'une campagne de terreur de facto menée contre les lesbiennes et les gays. Par leur silence, les politiciens ont tacitement appuyé l'établissement de deux mesures dans l'application de la loi, ce qui encourage la suppression des droits civiques fondamentaux et l'intimidation des gays qui sont victimes de crimes et d'actes de violence. Dans plusieurs domaines, les organismes gouvernementaux se sont ingérés dans la vie des gays. Des employeurs et des propriétaires ont arbitrairement congédié ou expulsé des employés ou des locataires parce qu'ils étaient gays. Les contribuables gays sont frustrés du droit à une protection équitable dans l'administration de la justice.

On n'a tenu aucun compte des nombreuses recommandations des commissaires s'occupant des droits de la personne, qui sont nommés par le gouvernement lui-même, car ceux-ci préconisaient l'interdiction de la discrimination fondée sur l'orientation sexuelle.

Sous les pressions de la soit-disant Majorité morale, les trois grands partis politiques se sont soustraits à leur responsabilité de faire preuve de véritable autorité morale et ont traité de la question des droits des gays uniquement en fonction de l'opportunisme politique. Deux mythes cités souvent dans les tracts haineux dirigés contre les gays ont été acceptés sans examen comme des raisons pour refuser les droits de la personne aux lesbiennes et aux homosexuels. La théorie de la "contagion" voulant que l'homosexualité soit répandue par prosélytisme et le spectre de l'homosexuel cherchant à attenter à la pudeur des enfants sont le résultat de préjugés erronés et haineux. Des recherches ont démontré hors de tout doute qu'il n'existe aucun rapport entre de tels attentats à la pudeur et l'homosexualité ou l'établissement de l'orientation sexuelle.

Certains prétendent que la discrimination contre les gays est inexistante ou rare. Les cas cités dans le présent exposé, les statistiques sur les plaintes non-officielles adressées à la Commission des droits de la personne de l'Ontario et fournies par le ministère du Travail ainsi que l'expérience vécue au Québec depuis l'adoption d'une loi protectrice en 1977, tendent à prouver le contraire.

Un sondage Gallup (le 29 juin 1977) a révélé que la majorité des Canadiens est favorable à l'octroi des droits de la personne aux homosexuels. Nous concluons notre exposé en démontrant que dans plusieurs secteurs de la société — notamment certaines églises, le travail, les affaires, les professions médicales et les services sociaux — on appuie les droits des gays.

## Summary

This brief is the third to be presented to the members of the Ontario Legislature by representatives of the gay minority since the last major revision of the Ontario Human Rights Code in 1972. Once again we present strong and compelling reasons for the inclusion of the term "sexual orientation" as a proscribed grounds for discrimination within the Code.


Described are some of the murders, beatings, incidents of discrimination and harassment which have occurred across this province in a de facto campaign of terror against lesbians and gay men. By their silence, politicians have given tacit support to a double standard in law enforcement which encourages acts of suppression, denial of basic civil rights and the intimidation of gay victims of crime and violence. Government agencies have manipulated and interfered with the lives of gay people in many jurisdictions. Employers and landlords have arbitrarily dismissed or evicted gay employees or tenants. Gay taxpayers have been denied equal protection in the administration of justice.

Repeated recommendations by the government's own appointed human rights commissioners that discrimination based on sexual orientation be prohibited have been ignored.

Pressured by the so-called Moral Majority, members of all three political parties have evaded their responsibility to exercise authentic moral leadership and have dealt with the issue of gay rights strictly in terms of political expediency. Two myths frequently quoted in anti-gay hate literature have been accepted at face value as reasons to deny human rights to homosexual women and men. The "contagion" theory that homosexuality is spread by proselytization and the spectre of the homosexual as child molester are products of an ignorant and vicious prejudice. Research has established that there is no relationship between child abuse and homosexuality or the determination of sexual orientation.

Some claim that discrimination against gay people is non-existent or rare. The cases cited here, the statistics on informal complaints to the Ontario Human Rights Commission supplied by the Minister of Labour, and the experience of Quebec's protective legislation passed in 1977, all argue to the contrary.

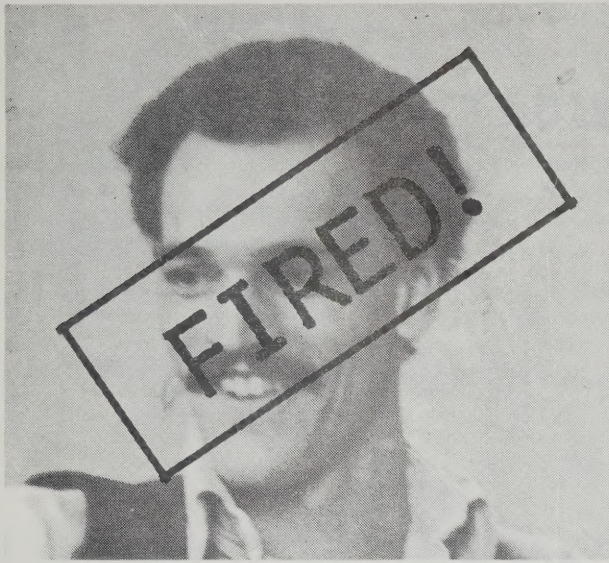
The Gallup Poll (June 29, 1977) has indicated that a majority of Canadians favour the granting of human rights to homosexuals. Our brief concludes by demonstrating support for gay rights exists in many sectors of society — major churches, labour, business, medical and social service professions, and others.



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Charles Lafrenie of Collingwood



John Damien of Toronto

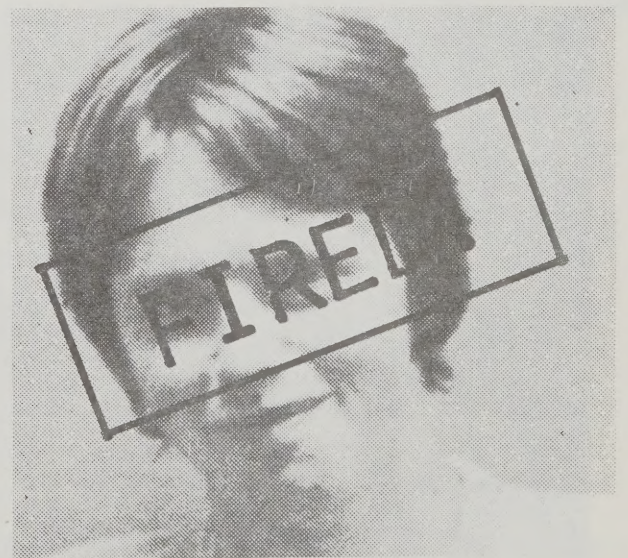
"I have checked with the Human Rights Commission regarding... statistics on the number and nature of complaints related to discrimination because of sexual orientation. I am able to report that there were 25 inquiries received in 1977, 18 in 1978 and 23 in the first three months of 1979."

— Hon. Robert G. Elgie, MD, in a letter to the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario. November 20, 1979.

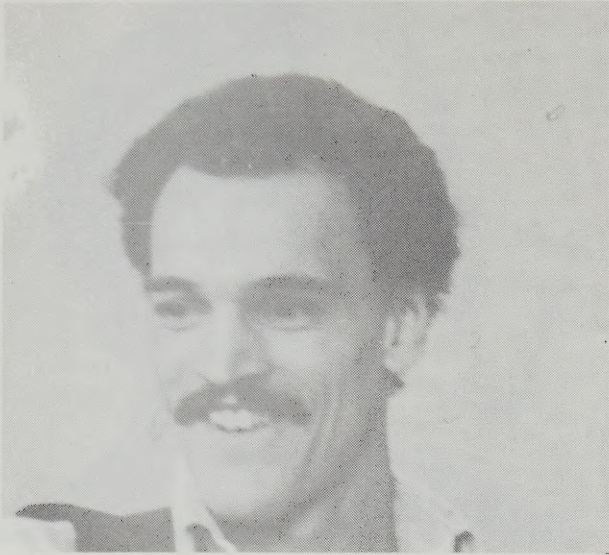
Lyn MacDonald of London



Brian Burch of Kingston

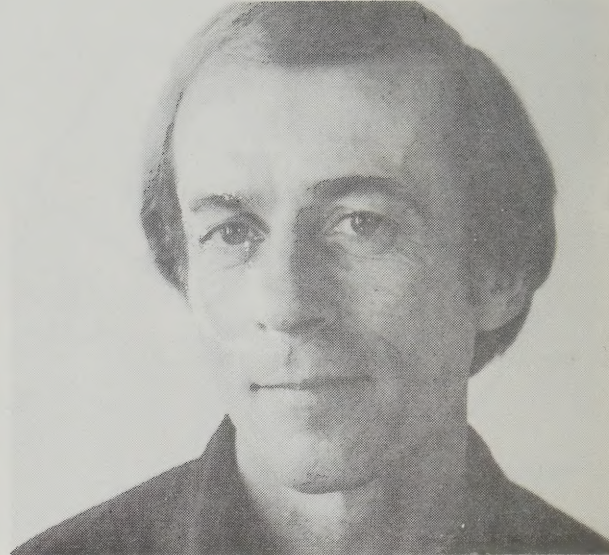






Body Politic

In March, 1979, Charles Lafrenie lost his job at the Highway-man Inn in Collingwood. Management claimed that this was a seasonal layoff, but other employees with less seniority were not laid off. Mr. Lafrenie had earlier been denied staff privileges because he was a homosexual.



Canadian Gay Archives

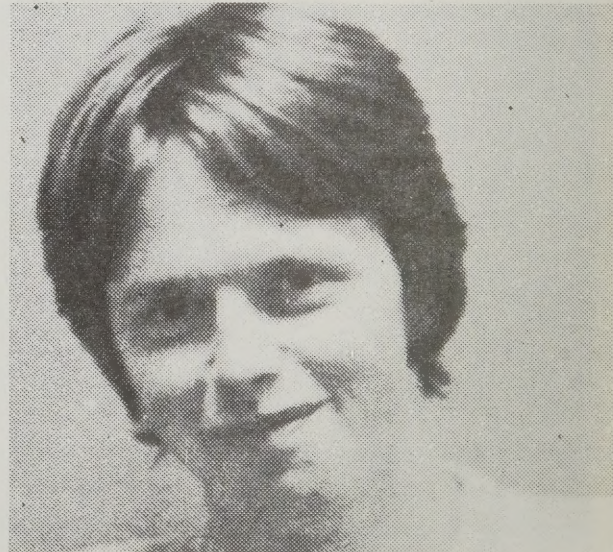
John Damien, an employee of the Ontario Racing Commission for 20 years, was fired from his position as racing steward in February, 1975. The reason given was his homosexuality. He has been fighting his dismissal in the courts for over six years.

In June, 1978, Lyn MacDonald was fired from her job at a London variety store when the owner discovered that she was a lesbian. As a result of publicity from this incident, her apartment superintendent tried to evict her.

In July, 1980, Brian Burch lost his job working with handicapped children at Kingston General Hospital, when it was discovered that he was bisexual. He had worked with children since 1974 without incident.



Body Politic



Queens Journal, Kingston



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## Acknowledgements

The Publications Committee of Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario would like to thank the following people for their assistance in the preparation of this brief: Christine Bearchell, Brian Burch, John Damien, Christine Donald, Jim Dougan, Yves Dufour, Gerald Hannon, Lynda Hurst, Ed Jackson, Michael Johnstone, Cate Lazarov, Peter Maloney, Jim Monk, Brian Mossop, Joe Szalai.

We also thank the many people who have contributed information over the past six years documenting cases of discrimination.

This brief was made possible by a grant from the Gay Community Appeal of Toronto.



Typeset by Dumont Press Graphix

Printed by Kitchener-Waterloo Gay Media Collective

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# Introduction: Quiet Terror

**ter'ror-ism** — the act of terrorizing; use of force or threats to demoralize, intimidate and subjugate, esp. such use as a political weapon or policy.

— Webster's New World Dictionary

In Ontario today, the malicious act of an informant can deprive a gay person of livelihood, living accommodation, and access to publicly-available services. Consequently, most lesbians and gay men feel that they must lead double lives if they are to survive. Terror as practised against gay people is a relic of our Judaeo-Christian roots which is embedded at all levels of society. Our terror has been reinforced throughout history — the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions, the Nazi death camps.<sup>1</sup> Even in "progressive" countries such as Canada, acts of terror occur with grim regularity.

## London, Ontario, 1980:

June 6: Archie Barton Leitch stabs his room-mate, Bruce Elliot, repeatedly, and smashes a bottle over his head for allegedly making a homosexual advance. October, 1980: Leitch is acquitted of charges of attempted murder, and wounding and assault. Leitch defends himself by claiming that he was "just doing the Lord's work".

The contention that as many as a million persons in Ontario live in constant apprehension that their lives could at any time be shattered creates skepticism among the naïve. This brief presents the evidence that terror is pervasive, perpetuated by a few members of the public, the police and the Ontario government, and tolerated by the apathy of the population at large.

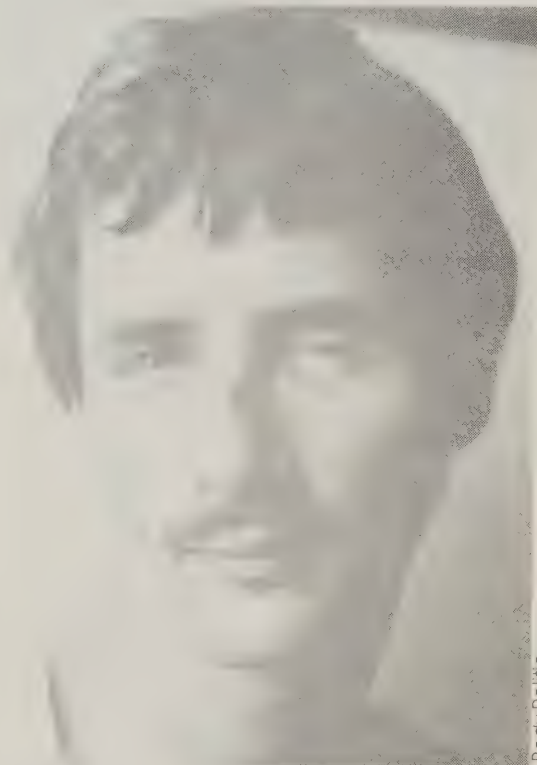
## Queer Bashing

Incidents of public violence against gay people are alarmingly widespread. The threat of public harassment and attack exists wherever we congregate, whether in the streets, in the neighbourhoods where gay bars and social organizations are located, in parks where many men turn for sex because they fear being identified in bars, or other places where they meet sexual partners. Although vicious and cowardly attacks are committed by a small minority of persons, the perpetrators are encouraged by the reluctance of the police and justice system to provide equal protection to gay taxpayers. Politicians tacitly support militant anti-homosexual groups whose literature promotes the extermination of any citizen who does not conform to their bigoted standards.

<sup>1</sup> For a short but graphic account of anti-gay terror in history, the reader should consult Louis Crompton's "Gay Genocide: From Leviticus to Hitler", in **The Gay Academic**. Louie Crew (ed.) ETC Publications, Palm Springs, Calif. 1978.

Howard Covington, who won 43% of the vote in the May 1980 Republican State Primary in North Carolina, has declared that the laws in his proposed "free state" will punish homosexuals with death. Covington is an avowed Nazi.

-Body Politic, April 1981



Body Politic

This man was attacked by a gang in a Toronto park.





Anti-gay mobs on Yonge St., Toronto on Hallowe'en.

## **Guelph, 1981**

Greg G., a student at the University of Guelph, was attacked from behind by two men in a university washroom while a gay social event was being held nearby. He was thrown to the floor and kicked repeatedly. The assailants escaped.

## **Hamilton, 1980**

In a recent attack, two gay men and a woman were assaulted by four men when they left the Windsor Hotel. Although at least one of the attackers was identified to police, no charges were laid.

## **1976**

Philip Stone, a 24 year old artist, committed suicide the day after he was brutally attacked by members of a Hamilton street gang. It was the third time he had been attacked. Gay men have been the victims of such attacks for many years in downtown Hamilton.

## **Kitchener, 1980**

In November, patrons of this city's only licensed establishment catering to lesbians and gay men were attacked by queer bashers while leaving the club; one person was stabbed. Management of the club circulated notices advising patrons to travel in groups when leaving. The club is located in a well-lit mall in downtown Kitchener.

## **London, 1980**

In August, patrons of the gay social club in London were beaten, robbed, and had their cars vandalized by gangs of hoodlums. Gay people were also attacked in London's Victoria Park.

## **Ottawa**

Numerous beatings and stabbings, and several murders have been committed against gay men in Ottawa's parks in the past five years.

## **St. Catharines, 1979**

This city's only gay social club was placed under siege by queer bashers throwing rocks. One woman was hospitalized after she was struck by a large rock thrown through the wooden door of the club. Patrons' cars were repeatedly vandalized. In 1980, the club decided to move to a larger, better lit facility.

## **Thunder Bay**

This city's Simpson Street, an area frequented by gay people, has been the scene of many assaults over the years.

## **Toronto**

Dozens of attacks against lesbians and gay men have been documented in the capital city of Ontario. The types of attacks include assaults, rape of both men and women, and murders. Of more than a dozen 'gay' murders committed in Toronto since 1975, seven remain unsolved.

Attacks on gay men are extremely common in Toronto's parks. Gangs of up to a dozen queer bashers have been known to attack individual gay men. When police arrive on the scene, they are often more concerned with harassing the victims than with apprehending the assailants.



## Windsor

Attacks against gay men and lesbians are a frequent occurrence in the vicinity of Windsor's gay clubs. Gay men have been beaten up in Dieppe Park.

## The Police

If there can be any reason for the attacks of civilians against gay people, it could be the result of the poor example set by the police.

### Hamilton

Police have admitted that they routinely inform parents if a youth under 16 years is found in the company of a known homosexual. This policy has resulted in young gay men being forced to seek a livelihood on the streets after being thrown out of their homes by irate parents.

### Toronto

Statistics reveal that incidents of police harassment are commonplace. Patrons of gay clubs have been taunted and roughed up by police on several occasions. Gay persons charged with offences can expect to be verbally intimidated. In several instances, police have beaten accused persons during interrogation.

On February 5, 1981, over 200 policemen raided four Toronto steambaths and eventually laid over 300 charges. In an orgy of destructiveness, police used crowbars, hammers and feet to smash doors, walls, windows, stereo equipment and other items. At least \$35,000 of damage was done to private property. Those gay men who were arrested in the baths were subjected to verbal and physical abuse. When a group of naked men were forced to line up against a wall in a shower room, one officer commented, "Too bad the showers aren't hooked up to gas".

In 1978, a gay teacher with 32 years experience was charged as a found-in during a raid on a Toronto steam bath. Sgt. Gary Donovan of Intelligence Squad informed the school board, as well as the boards of other teachers arrested in the raid. When the aforementioned teacher publicized this action by informing his pastor, his residence was raided by police. Personal letters, a Christmas card list, and membership lists for two organizations in which he was involved were seized. The teacher was charged with operating a "bawdy" house — in his own home.

In August 1980, plainclothesman Constable Richard Dionne unnecessarily fired his revolver three times while apprehending five, unarmed gay men in Toronto's David Balfour Park. The men were later charged with committing "gross indecency" and "indecent acts".



Norman Hutton



Norman Hutton

Did the police use "reasonable" force?

# THE HOMOSEXUAL FAD

by TOM MOCLAIR, S/SGT. 14 Division

ness or aberration should never become a

saddened and desolated that the Mayor of recently sanctioned acts of perversion which the decadence of our society in his liberal ant show of appreciation to a few hundred gals who helped him get elected. These "weirds" need our tolerance and acceptance, but certainly our approval to continue their psychological in foisting their acts of depravity on the long public of our society suffering from homosexuality. He calls itself "homophile" gavs "fags" and etc., provide us with a vivid example of how in Canada have gone down the "road to hery" just look at them victims of emotional as misfits of their environments, attempting to their aberration into a right as well as a virtue, listen to them talk (if you can stomach them), they sure like to talk, because talk is a penchant of the physically deprived and

Mr. Sewell must be made aware that the la and the cultural values of man will have dedicated

Nothing seems to appease this wanting herd of homosexuals. They keep demanding for more approval, more rights and more. They wouldn't even mind converting into their "way of life". Many of them this world is lately homosexual anyhow, just released and liberated into a beautiful new

Their demands are basic and simple. S fooling by them. All they want to do is sodomy and fellatio between members of — and I guess whatever equivalent man women could accomplish in complicit. The recruitment of children is absolutely the survival and growth of homosexuals cannot reproduce they are compelled freshen their ranks.

You may say who gives a damn! If feel better its no skin off my... nose. I strong enough not to be corrupted; they

Selling their condition as if it were virtue; acting it out; prancing and wiggling, and sometimes dressing in effeminate garb; smelling like polecats; these are not involuntary acts. These are sick, volitional despicable actions.

from **The Homosexual Fad**,  
Staff Sgt. Tom Mocclair, 14 Division



An indecent act?

Canadian Gay Archives

On October 3, 1979, Derek George Grant, 44, was entrapped by two officers of the Morality Squad while allegedly performing sexual acts in the washroom of a bar in Toronto. Later that evening, Grant choked to death on his vomit while in custody. At the inquest hearing in Coroner's Court, the two arresting officers were in disagreement in their testimony as to whether Grant had been involved in any activities which could be deemed to be in violation of the Criminal Code.

In 1979, the Metro Toronto Police Association's magazine "News and Views" published articles which denigrated the gay and other minorities. In the 1980 municipal election campaign, anti-gay literature was displayed in at least two police stations. Members of the Force campaigned against candidates who were supportive of the gay and other minority communities.

In 1976, two gay men were arrested for kissing on a downtown Toronto street, and charged with committing an indecent act. This incident typifies the double standard exercised by police. Heterosexuals discovered while engaged in romantic activities are either ignored or asked to move along. Although the law does not distinguish between homosexuals and heterosexuals in these cases, police officers certainly do.

In May 1980, Constable George Puce and his partners used anti-gay slurs while subjecting patrons of Dudes, a gay club, to body searches outside the club. Two charges of improper conduct were brought against Puce by one of the proprietors of the Club. Supt. D. Sproule, when dismissing the charges during the police investigation of the police, maligned the proprietor as "a very vindictive person... desperately in need of an incident between the Police and the Homosexual Community to bring attention to what he feels are problems."<sup>2</sup>

Gay men and lesbians across Ontario have come to view the police with mistrust, and are therefore reluctant to report thefts, muggings, break-ins or other crimes, for fear that they will be subjected to lack of cooperation, abuse, and intimidation by investigating officers.

<sup>2</sup> Excerpts from the trial of Police Constable George Puce, 3629, heard before Supt. D. Sproule, on Tuesday, October 30th, 1979.



# Discrimination

Discrimination against any minority group is seldom blatant or easily documented. Some provincial politicians have dodged the issue of gay rights by claiming that there is no documented record of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. The fact that 23 complaints of discrimination on this ground were lodged with the Ontario Human Rights Commission in the first three months of 1979<sup>3</sup> alone refutes this claim.

Politicians continue to argue that the "time is not right" for protecting the gay and lesbian minority, that much more public education is required. Surely this argument itself is proof that protection is an immediate necessity. How long are we to wait? The experience of other minorities has demonstrated that protection by the Code serves as an effective means of educating the public as well as protecting minorities from the acts of a prejudiced few. This has also been found to be true in Quebec, where many such cases involving gay people have been satisfactorily settled. (See "The Quebec Experience", page 21)

The documentation of anti-gay discrimination involves a complexity of human problems. In most cases the employer, landlord, bureaucrat or business proprietor doesn't have the nerve to be honest as to the reason for discrimination. Frequently, the gay victim fears that any protest will result in further acts of discrimination because of publicity.

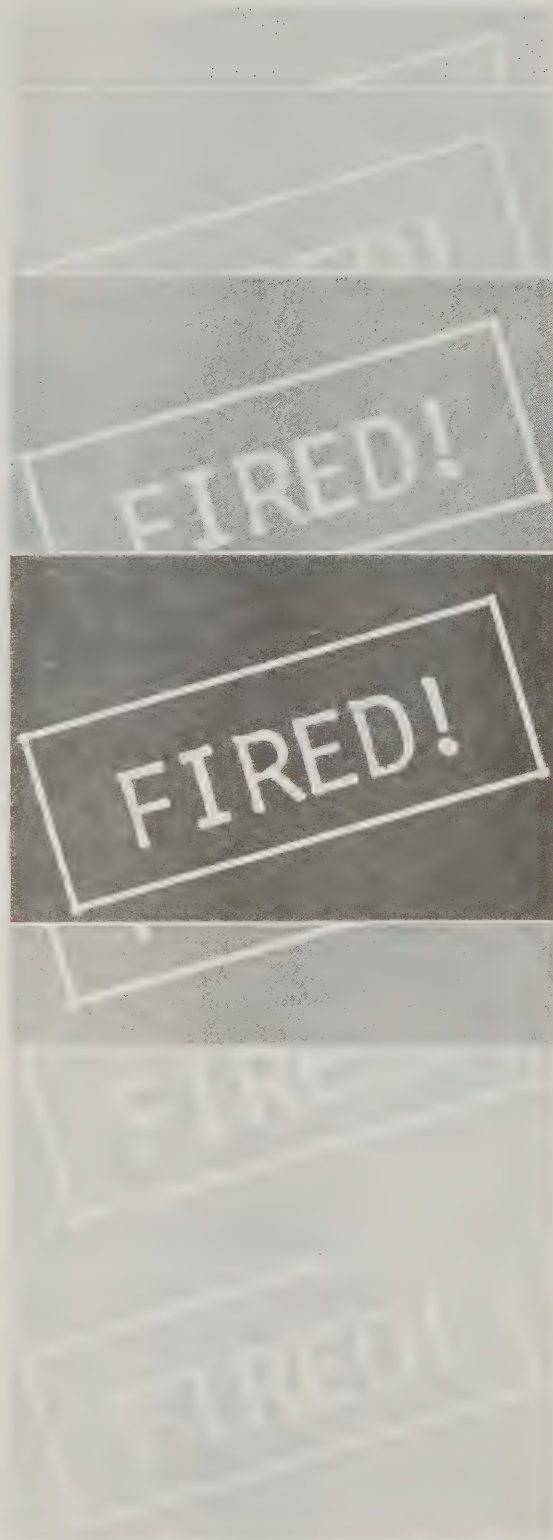
The following cases are just the tip of the iceberg. In a few of the cases listed, the persons involved have asked that we change their names for the sake of their jobs, homes, and privacy.

## Brampton 1979

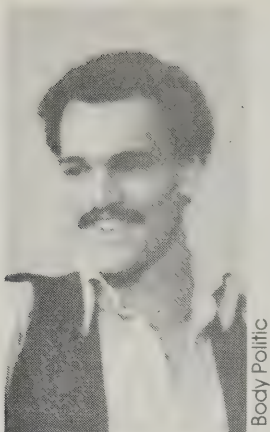
John P., 21, of Guelph, had worked as a clerk in a Cambridge shoe store for three years. In 1979, his manager learned of an opening for an assistant manager at the company's Brampton store, and recommended John P. for the job. The company was sincere about the offer to the extent of covering moving costs, amounting to several hundred dollars. One week after he started the new job, John P. was fired, for supposed incompetence. John learned later from his previous manager that his homosexuality was the real reason for the dismissal. He did not make an issue of this because he feared that this would jeopardize his chances of finding other work.

## 1978

The manager of the Brampton Golf Club cancelled a



<sup>3</sup>Letter from Hon. Robert Elgie, to CGRO, Nov. 20, 1979.



Body Politic

C. Lafrenie



G. Hannon

B. Thornborrow



Queen's Journal, Kingston

Brian Burch



Canadian Gay Archives

G. Cameron

luncheon sponsored by the Social Planning Council of Peel because members of Gay Equality Mississauga had been invited to speak.

### Collingwood, 1979

In March, Charles Lafrenie, 25, was given his notice by the manager of the Highwayman Inn in Collingwood, where he had worked as a waiter for six months. Lafrenie, who is openly gay, had earlier been denied staff privileges including access to the pool and tennis courts, and meals while on duty. Although the hotel manager claimed that Lafrenie's "layoff" was due to the offseason slowdown, other employees with less seniority were not laid off. Lafrenie approached the OHRC but was told there was nothing they could do.

### Guelph, 1976

Moffitt Printers of Guelph refused to print simple business cards for Guelph Gay Equality, a long-established community organization.

### Hamilton, 1977

In May, Barbara Thornborrow was expelled from the Armed Forces when it was discovered that she was a lesbian. She had been in the services for eighteen months.

### 1977

In December, Phil Bryce was given notice to vacate his apartment within 60 days. A month later his landlady changed the lock and when Mr. Bryce confronted her, she accused him of being a homosexual.

### Kingston, 1980

Brian Burch, 24, had worked with children since 1974 in settings ranging from summer camps to children's theatre companies. In June 1980, Burch was hired as Assistant Coordinator in the Summer Adolescence Program of the Kingston General Hospital's Regional Centre for Handicapped Children. Soon after it was discovered that he was bisexual, Burch was fired from the job.

### Kitchener, 1979

In December, a gay social club in Kitchener was deprived of further use of the city-owned Bridgeport Community Centre, where they had been holding regular dances for five years. Local residents who form a community centre committee blocked further use of the centre by gay groups.

### 1977

In July, Gloria Cameron of Kitchener was expelled from the Armed Forces when her superiors discovered that she was a lesbian. She had been in the services for eight years.

### 1975

In February, four lesbians were openly discriminated against when they attempted to rent a house. The landlord, realizing that they were lesbians, increased the amount of the rent, stating that homosexuals should pay more than "normal" people.

### London, 1978

In June, Lyn MacDonald of London was fired from her job at a variety store when her employer discovered that she was



a lesbian. She appealed to the OHRC but was told that they could only approach the store manager informally. In the ensuing publicity, her apartment superintendent discovered that she was a lesbian and sent her an eviction letter, stating her sexual orientation as the reason.

### 1977

In November, a lesbian couple was evicted from their apartment when their landlord discovered their phone number on a poster for a gay distress line. The women did not contact the OHRC out of fear of possible recrimination.

### Mississauga, 1978

In January, the Mississauga Library Board refused to allow library facilities to be used for the showing of **The Naked Civil Servant**, an award-winning British film which had previously been shown nation-wide on the CBC television network. The film had been scheduled to be shown as part of the Library's "Films for Thinkers" series.

### Niagara Falls, 1978

In January, a gay social group was turned down in its attempt to rent space in the Core Building, a building used by the Social Planning Council. This was the result of United Way's stated refusal to "fund gay groups either directly or indirectly".

### North Bay, 1981

Cate Lazarov had worked as a volunteer counsellor for Telecare, a Christian telephone counselling service, for six months. In May, she was asked to resign after she requested clarification of Telecare's policies on dealing with gay callers and homophobic counsellors. She felt compelled to find out the policies when she discovered that another counsellor and the service director had refused to assist gay callers.

### Ottawa, 1979

In March, representatives of Gays of Ottawa attempted to rent space above an Ottawa restaurant for use as a drop-in centre. Once they had agreed to rent the space, the owner, Stan Ages, refused to rent the space to them for "business reasons". GO later filed a complaint with the OHRC.

### 1979

In October, two gay men were asked to leave Pepper's Restaurant because a couple of drunk patrons disapproved of their presence. The proprietress claimed she asked the gay men to leave "merely to prevent a fight." As the two were leaving, a uniformed policeman who was entering said "Goodnight, sweethearts."

### Peterborough, 1977

In October, a group of conservative students at Trent University organized a petition to force the student government to stop funding the Trent Homophile Association and five other student groups which they objected to. In a referendum on the issue, a proposal to deprive the groups of funding was overwhelmingly defeated.



Lyn MacDonald

Body Politic



Body Politic

Instructor John Argue discovered that correcting students' prejudices against homosexuals could cost him his job.



Canadian Gay Archives

"The Brunswick Four"

## Toronto, 1977

In November, John Argue, an instructor in swimming at Glenview Senior Public School in Toronto, was threatened with dismissal by the principal. Mr. Argue had responded to derogatory terms used by a group of students whom he overheard discussing homosexuals. The principal imposed severe restrictions on Mr. Argue's movements and on his association with students both in and out of class.

## 1976

In December, a man was denied employment by a clothing establishment known as Paris Match, in Cumberland Terrace. During the job interview he admitted to being a homosexual. He appealed the matter to the OHRC.

## 1976

In November a lesbian couple was denied accommodation in a furnished one-bedroom apartment at York University. The University rents to heterosexual couples, married or not.

## 1975

In February, John Damien was fired from his position of racing steward with the Ontario Racing Commission, a position he had held for five years. (See section on Ontario government discrimination for full details.)

## 1974

In September, a gay couple that had been paying family rate premiums to the Ontario Health Insurance Plan were refused reimbursement for a medical bill of several hundred dollars. This was in contrast to OHIP's long-standing policy of paying benefits to partners in heterosexual common-law relationships. The couple has since been forced to pay separate premiums.

## 1974

In June, a lesbian, along with her lover, mother, and small daughter, were refused recognition as a family unit by Ontario Housing Corporation officials, who tried to evict them on this basis.

## 1974

In March, a group of gay men were expelled from Manny's Delicatessen because the manager objected to their openly-gay conversation.

## 1974

In January, four lesbians were evicted from the Brunswick House Tavern and assaulted by police after being charged with creating a public disturbance. They had participated in an "amateur night" show by singing a song expressing their joy at being lesbians.

## Windsor, 1979

In August, Jim Davies was fired from his job as night auditor at Windsor's Wandlyn Viscount Hotel, a job he had held for two years. Davies later discovered from Tom Rees, a union representative, that he had been fired because he was gay. He also learned that this had been part of a program by the hotel manager, John Bresnyak, to fire all homosexuals on the staff.



# Discrimination And the Ontario Government

Aside from queer bashing, police harassment and discrimination by employers and landlords, lesbians and gay men have come to realize that the Ontario Government is one of the most glaring sources of persecution in this province.

## The Ontario Racing Commission

In 1975, John Damien, an employee of the Ontario Racing Commission for 20 years, was fired from his position as racing steward. The reason given for this action was his homosexuality. Damien's suit against the Commission and some of its employees for wrongful dismissal has still not come to trial six years after it was started. Endless legal manoeuvrings on the part of the defence, paid for at least in part out of public funds, have accounted for this delay. Early in 1980 two of the four sets of lawyers representing the defendants asked the court to order Damien to post \$93,000 just in case Damien lost. John Damien was driven into personal bankruptcy in 1979, and his supporters have already spent over \$60,000 in support of his civil suit.

## The Ontario Arts Council

In October, 1979, the Ontario Arts Council overturned an award decision made by an independent jury for the first time in the Council's history. The denied award was a \$1000 grant to the widely-respected gay newsjournal, *The Body Politic*. Minister of Culture and Recreation Reuben Baetz improperly interfered in the activities of the supposedly independent Council by criticising the grant as "impolitic and insensitive" and warned the Council to keep in mind "whether this is the way the taxpayers of Ontario would likely want their money spent."

The situation in Ontario contrasts with that in Quebec, where funds were made available to assist cultural activities such as gay participation in the 1980 St. Jean Baptiste celebrations.

## The Criminal Injuries Compensation Board

In September 1977, Serge Tardif of Hull, Quebec, was attacked in an Ottawa park by a man who stabbed him, perforating his liver. After his assailant was convicted of assault causing bodily harm in March 1978, Tardif sought repatriation from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, an agency of the Ministry of the Attorney General. In its October 1979 decision, the Board found that because Tardif had been walking at nine in the evening in a park known to be frequented by homosexuals, he had been 'asking for it'. His application was denied.

In 1978, Donald Rochester of Toronto was shot and killed by a youth, Leon Savage, after an argument during which Rochester had allegedly threatened the youth for refusing to perform certain sexual acts. In March 1981, Rochester's widow was denied financial assistance when the Board ruled that the victim had "directly or indirectly contributed to his... death".

## The Liquor Licence Board of Ontario

In September 1980, Toronto Area Gays, a volunteer group providing counselling to lesbians and gay men, was refused a Special Occasion permit for a fundraising dance. The Board claimed that TAG did not qualify for such a permit because it was not a charitable, educational or religious organization and because it did not serve the needs of the whole community.



In the winner's circle, 1958 — jockey John Damien on "Little Squeeze".

Turofsky Photo

At a Liquor Licence Appeal Tribunal, TAG asked the Board for its criteria in granting permits. In revealing that each case was judged "on its merits", the Board admitted that it had been granting or withholding permits over the years at whim. The tribunal then ruled that an organization does not have to be serving the whole community to qualify for a fundraising permit, and that TAG was indeed serving a community need.

## **Ministries of the Solicitor General and Attorney General**

The incidents of police harassment which we have described in previous sections have been tacitly approved by official silence:

### **September, 1976**

Solicitor General John Macbeth refused to allow a public inquiry into the "trial by the press" tactics used by Ottawa police when investigating a male prostitution affair in 1975. During that investigation, one man committed suicide when police allowed his name and address to appear in the press. The Ontario government also refused to make public an Ontario Provincial Police report which was apparently critical of the Ottawa police.

### **July, 1979**

The Ontario Police Commission refused to allow an inquiry into the treatment of minorities (including gays) by the Metro Toronto Police. Early in 1980, Attorney General Roy McMurtry presented legislation which continued to deny civilian independent review of police actions, despite the recommendations of several government-commissioned reports that the present system of police investigating themselves be scrapped.

### **August, 1979**

Attorney General Roy McMurtry refused to meet with representatives of the gay community to discuss the many grievances concerning police actions of the previous two years. Finally, a sit-in forced McMurtry to have one of his assistants meet with Community representatives.

Attorney General Roy McMurtry has supported the use of vague laws to harass members of the gay community. Police officers have been used to provoke violence in otherwise peaceful protests against government-sanctioned repression.

### **December, 1977**

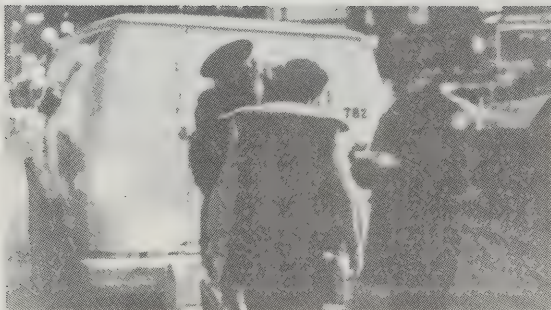
The Body Politic was charged with "using the mails to distribute immoral, indecent or scurrilous material". In March 1979, the Crown appealed the acquittal of the Body Politic on this charge.

### **December, 1978**

During a raid on a Toronto steam bath, 25 men were arrested and charged as found-ins in a "common bawdy house" — a place "resorted to for the purposes of prostitution or the practice of acts of indecency" according to this Victorian law.

### **June, 1979**

A gay teacher in Toronto was charged with operating a "common bawdy house" — in his own home. This was the first time in decades that an individual had been charged



Gerald Hannon

Gay men in Toronto are becoming increasingly familiar with the interior of police paddy wagons.



with this offence with respect to his residence. In 1980, a gay lawyer was charged with the same offence.

### February 5, 1981

In the largest mass arrest since the War Measures Act was invoked in 1970, more than 200 policemen were used to arrest over 300 men in raids on four bathhouses in Toronto. The raids came a few days after the Conservative government announced a provincial election, in a city where gay rights was to be a major campaign issue in several key ridings. Once again, the vague "bawdy house" law was used in a sweeping act of publicly-funded terrorism which sent shock waves across the province and raised outrage in many parts of Canada. The loss of jobs and disruption of families continues today, long after the election fever has been forgotten.

### February 20, 1981

In the series of protest demonstrations which followed the mass arrest of more than 300 men on February 5, 1981, photographs revealed that undercover police officers participated in the protests. Two officers in particular were seen carrying a banner at the head of the demonstration, and later were photographed while they were arresting a demonstrator. Sworn affidavits of protestors indicated that some of the officers, identified in photographs, had attempted to incite violence by spitting in people's faces, and provoking fights with onlookers. The use of **agents provocateurs** deepens the insidious implications of the recent police actions.

There have been no official requests that law officers apply the law equally to all citizens, whether heterosexual or homosexual:

### 1977

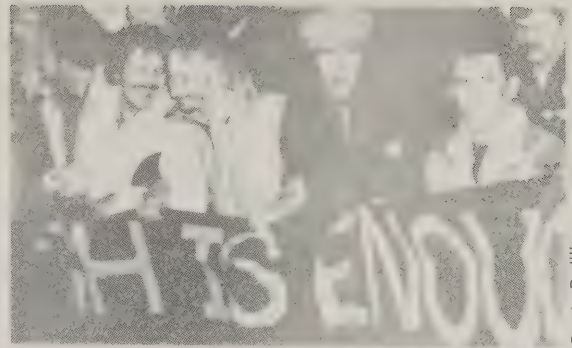
Two Toronto men were arrested and later convicted on charges of "committing an indecent act in a public place". They had been kissing at the corner of Yonge and Bloor Streets. Such a charge would never be laid against heterosexuals in similar circumstances.

Large numbers of police officers are routinely assigned to entrap men committing "indecent acts" in public parks throughout the Province. Heterosexuals, on the other hand, are told to "move along."

### Hallowe'en, 1980

For years, Metro Toronto Police claimed that there was nothing they could do about the anti-gay mobs which lined Yonge Street every Hallowe'en. In 1980, they finally prevented the crowds from forming, but only after intense political pressure was brought to bear during the municipal election campaign.

In a well organized program of terror against gay people, police have seized mailing lists of eight gay organizations since 1977. None of the lists have ever been returned to their owners. Gay people across Ontario should have no reason to doubt that these lists have been widely distributed in police circles.



Body Politic

Undercover police hold banner and are later seen arresting a demonstrator.



Ted Hebbes, The Clarion

Community Relations?



Gerald Hannon

Until 1980, police claimed they couldn't control the anti-gay Halloween mobs on Yonge Street.

## **March, 1980**

The Crown appealed a court order which required that the list of subscribers and other materials seized from the Body Politic be returned.

## **The Ontario Human Rights Commission**

Despite its lofty goals, the Human Rights Commission has been plagued with political interference, especially where gay people have been involved.

## **December, 1975**

Labour Minister Bette Stephenson interfered in the handling of a complaint brought by John Damien against his former employer, the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations.<sup>4</sup> Damien had been fired from his job on grounds of homosexuality, and he was attempting to have the Commission deal with his case under the category of discrimination on the basis of sex. Stephenson recommended that a Board of Inquiry not be established, even before the normal procedure of complaint investigation was underway.

Although successive human rights commissioners have unanimously supported the amendment of the Human Rights Code to protect against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, the Ontario government has continually ignored the advice of these appointed officials.

<sup>4</sup> Revealed in March 1976 in Ontario Supreme Court when the OHRC produced a document to this effect while defending itself in a suit brought against it by Damien.



# Human Rights for Gay People: The Quebec Experience

In December 1977, the National Assembly amended the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms to protect citizens from discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation. By providing legal protection for gay men and lesbians in housing, employment and access to public services, the legislators of Quebec reduced the moral authority of policemen, queer-bashers, and government agencies who have perpetuated the reign of terror under which gay people live.

It has been argued in Ontario that legislation cannot effectively deal with prejudice. This has not been the experience in Quebec, where intervention by the Quebec Human Rights Commission has reinforced the intent of the law. Recent reports of the Q.H.R.C. reveal that 2 to 3% of all complaints received deal with anti-gay discrimination.<sup>5</sup>

Some of the cases resolved to date include:

## 1978

A hospital employee, fired for being a homosexual, obtained a \$10,000 settlement and a favorable letter of reference.

Two women teachers in private schools received settlements of \$3000 and \$4000 after they were fired.

## 1979

A Chicoutimi newspaper paid \$800 to avoid appearing in court on a charge of violating the Human Rights Charter. The paper had refused an advertisement for a gay conference.

The Montreal Catholic School Commission was found to be in violation of the Charter for refusing to let a gay organization meet in a school at a time when students were absent. When the Catholic School Commission supported its action by using the "religious grounds" exemption of the Charter, a court ruled that outside school hours the Commission was simply a landlord letting groups use or rent its facilities.

## 1980

In Chicoutimi, two men who were prevented from dancing together in a discotheque were each awarded \$100. The proprietor was ordered to change the anti-gay policy and apologize to the complainants.

Ontario legislators should examine the successes of the Quebec experience if they doubt the effectiveness of legislation prohibiting discrimination. The cases speak for themselves.

<sup>5</sup>For Further information, see **Droits et libertés**, Bulletin de la Commission des droits de la personne du Québec, Vol. 4 no. 3, March 1981.

# Childhood and Homosexuality

"The homosexual child is the truly molested child. Every homosexual has suffered that molestation. Every homosexual's sexuality has been interfered with, impeded, strangled, diverted, denounced, 'cured', pitied, punished. That is molestation."

— Gerald Hannon  
The Body Politic, Issue 39

Growing up gay is full of cruel surprises. The most common epithets of the schoolyard or neighbourhood streets are anti-gay insults. Children as young as six or seven use those terms frequently, ignorant of their exact meanings, but knowing that they are the most hurtful insults they can hurl at each other.

Until puberty most gay people are unaware of their sexuality. They are thoroughly socialized by the dominant heterosexual culture to react to homosexuality in purely negative terms: mockery, disgust, fear, hatred or pity. Having learned to hold homosexuals in contempt, the gay adolescent may be shocked to discover she or he is one.

Unlike members of racial or ethnic minorities, homosexual girls and boys cannot turn to their families for support. Often a gay teenager's first experience with rejection, often even persecution, comes from their family's reaction.

Not only are parents unprepared to help their gay children, but there are also no social service agencies capable of dealing with the problems of gay adolescents. Each year in Ontario, many children, when they are exposed to ridicule or punished for their homosexuality, run away from home to seek the anonymity of a big city. It is one of the great scandals of our society that hundreds of these teenagers are forced to sell themselves on the streets of Toronto and Ottawa as prostitutes in order to survive. Although most gay teenagers never become street hustlers, the price they pay is the constant trauma of hiding their real selves from their parents, relatives and friends.

The people best qualified to assist families and gay children in dealing with the stigma attached to homosexuality are gay teachers, childcare and social workers. Ironically, these professionals are also the most in need of human rights code protection. Their hands are tied. The two myths — that homosexuals molest children and that homosexuality is the result of contact with homosexuals — put at risk the careers of any openly gay teacher or youth worker.





Researchers studying sexual preference and child molestation are virtually unanimous in their observation that homosexuals rarely molest children. Consider these findings:

Robert L. Gaiser in his book *Hidden Victims: The Sexual Abuse of Children* (1979) states: "As for the offenders, studies suggest that these men are much more likely to have a heterosexual history and orientation than a homosexual one. Contrary to public belief, homosexual adult males rarely molest young male children."<sup>6</sup>

The Oregon Task Force on Sexual Preference conducted a 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> year review of 'child molestation' data from several states and cities, and a review of all books and professional journals dealing with this subject. They concluded: "... sexual offenses against children are perpetrated by males; the great majority are heterosexual in nature, i.e. male offenders and female victims."<sup>7</sup>

These studies have also highlighted the fact that most offenders have a heterosexual history even when the victim is male; that the child knows the offender in 80% of cases; and that 95% of the cases of sexual abuse involve men and girls.<sup>6, 7</sup>

The 'contagion theory' of sexuality is also patently absurd. Almost all homosexuals are raised in heterosexual families and have no contact with other gay people until well after they have become aware of their sexual orientation. Dr. Mary Calerone, President of the United States Sex Information Council points out: "It is now generally accepted that homosexuality and heterosexuality both are determined or programmed in the very early childhood years by as yet unidentifiable events."

The thesis that teachers and other professionals who are gay would be less ethical in their conduct with children of their own gender than their heterosexual colleagues are with children of the opposite sex is not supported by one shred of evidence. It is the same bigoted, prejudiced thinking that until most recently, led family court judges to find homosexuality a negative factor in determining child custody. The fear of homosexuality which pervades our society is without justification. There are gay parents, teachers, and counsellors who are just as skilled and responsible as most of their heterosexual counterparts. And there are gay children every bit as deserving of love and acceptance as their heterosexual brothers and sisters.

"As teacher-leaders we have to make sure that school boards do not interfere in the bedrooms of teachers, heterosexual or homosexual."

— **Margaret Wilson, President,  
Ontario Secondary School Teachers  
Federation**



"I also try to be honest with my son. It's hard sometimes, but he can handle honesty. Jason's grown up with the women in my life and it's a natural thing for him."

— **A lesbian mother, Guelph**

"In my view, homosexuality is a neutral and not a negative factor as far as parenting skills are concerned."

— **Madame Justice Bertha Wilson  
Ontario Court of Appeal**

<sup>7</sup>Robert L. Gaiser, 1979. *Hidden Victims: The Sexual Abuse of Children*

<sup>8</sup>Report of the Oregon Task Force on Sexual Preference to the Oregon State Legislature, 1977.



Son and Gay Father.

Following are some quotations from Dr. Susan Bradley's testimony before the Ontario Day Nurseries Review Board:<sup>8</sup> ..

"... clearly, for a lot of children, once their sexual orientation is known to the family, they are not altogether acceptable at home."

"... when we have attempted to place these children in group homes where the sexual orientation of the people running it is heterosexual, and this child was clearly homosexual, that a lot of times we ran into difficulties because the child became isolated in that setting, but frequently these children are seen as threatening to many of the heterosexual people running it, and it has not infrequently led to the breakdown of the placement."

Q. "Do you feel that there are existing social services that are capable of dealing with the problems that these homosexual adolescents encounter, in terms of long-term residential placement?"

A. "Well, if they exist, I haven't found them and I would like to find them.... There is no question in my mind that we need such a facility.... There are really a large number of kids who do not have an adequate facility."

<sup>8</sup>Dr. Susan Bradley, F.R.C.P., Assistant Professor Psychiatry, University of Toronto, Consultant Psychiatrist, Child and Adolescent Section, Clarke Institute of Psychiatry. Expert testimony before the Ontario Day Nurseries Review Board, August 16, 1979.



# The Ontario Human Rights Omission: A Chronology

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## 1972

**June** Amendments to include "sex," "age" and "marital status" to existing provisions in the Ontario Human Rights Code given first reading in Ontario legislature without prior notice.

**June 29** Gays demonstrate outside Queen's Park before final session of legislature which passes bill without sexual orientation amendment. Demonstrators enter House Gallery. Michael Cassidy (NDP — Ottawa Centre) has Speaker "recognize" group's presence.

**August 26** Gay Pride march ends up at Queen's Park for first time.

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## 1973

**April 30** Representatives of **The Body Politic** (TBP) and Toronto Gay Alliance Toward Equality (GATE) meet with Daniel Hill, chairperson of the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC), who suggests preparing brief documenting discrimination in employment and housing.

**May 2** Representatives of **TBP** and GATE meet with NDP Caucus and urge inclusion of gay rights statement in NDP platform.

**August 21** Brief (**The Homosexual Minority and the Ontario Human Rights Code**) presented to representatives of OHRC in Ottawa, Hamilton, Kitchener-Waterloo, Windsor and Toronto on behalf of ad hoc Gay Pride Coalition of Homophile Associations in the Province of Ontario. In Toronto, GATE meets Fern Guindon, Minister of Labour

**August 26** Gay Pride march on Queen's Park with participants from across province.

**October 10** Toronto City Council passes resolution barring discrimination on basis of sexual orientation in city employment.

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## 1974

**February 1** OHRC puts brief on agenda. Result: "No conclusions reached."

**February 8** Meeting of two GATE representatives cancelled by OHRC director Robert McPhee at last minute. Reason: "Would serve no useful purpose."

**February 18** Protest demonstration outside OHRC offices in Toronto. Meeting with McPhee results, at which meeting with full commission is promised.

**March 1** GATE meets with full Commission, which refuses to take stand, but offers to record cases of discrimination.

**April 24** Minister of Labour Fern Guindon, in letter to GATE: "I do not intend to recommend to my colleagues in Cabinet any change in legislation at this time."

**August 17** Gay Pride march on Queen's Park.

**August 20** GATE meets new Labour Minister, John MacBeth, who says public opinion prevents amendment of the Code.

## 1975

**January 18 -19** Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario (CGRO) formed.

**February 6** John Damien fired.

**March** OHRC Code Review Committee established.

**September 12** Letter from NDP leader Michael Cassidy: "As you are no doubt aware, it is basic to the programme of the NDP that workers be protected from unjust and arbitrary dismissal. The party, and I as a member of the caucus, will continue to fight for changes in legislation, be it in the OHRC as you suggest, or in the province's labour laws..."

**November 14** Labour Minister Bette Stephenson refuses to meet with gay community representatives.

**December 5** Court rules that the term "sex" in the OHRC means gender only.

## 1976

**May 6** Ted Bounsall (NDP, Windsor-Sandwich) introduces private member's bill to amend the OHRC to include sexual orientation, political belief and physical handicap. Margaret Campbell (Liberal, St. George) puts forward a member's resolution to do the same thing. Both efforts fail.

**June 11 -13** NDP convention adopts gay rights resolution.

## 1977

**April 4** First reading of Margaret Campbell's Private Member's Bill C16A.

**April 28** Bill C16A is refused second reading and therefore fails.

**May 21** CGRO demonstration at Queen's Park.

**June 4** Michael Cassidy reaffirms support for sexual orientation amendment at Gays of Ottawa all-candidates meeting.

**June 29** Gallup Poll results on question of sexual orientation in Canadian Human Rights Act — 52% in favour, 30% opposed.

**July 21** **Life Together** report released by OHRC

**November 1** CGRO meets with Liberal Caucus.

**December 15** Quebec National Assembly adopts sexual orientation amendment to Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms.

## 1978

**March 1** Letter from Cassidy: "We will do our part to pass the amendment when it is brought before the legislature."

**March** CGRO publishes **Discrimination and the Gay Minority**.



**May 4 Life Together** presented to the Ontario legislature. Stuart Smith, Liberal leader: "I am no more afraid of having my son, for instance, learn in a school where there is a teacher who may in his private life have a homosexual orientation than I am afraid of having my daughter study in a school where there is a teacher who has a heterosexual orientation."

**August 18** Robert Elgis named Minister of Labour

## 1979

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**February** Coalition for Life Together forms, includes gay and handicapped people.

**April 10** Coalition for Life Together demonstrates at Queen's Park. Smith and Cassidy blame Tory fear of sexual orientation amendment for inaction on **Life Together**.

**May 14** CGRO submits update of **Discrimination and the Gay Minority** to Elgie.

**June 1** Letter from Michael Cassidy: "As you will know we have been consistent in our efforts to prevent discrimination against homosexuals."

**June** Quebec Human Rights Commission's first report since the introduction of a sexual orientation amendment to article 5 of the Human Rights Charter. Eighteen cases of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation had been dealt with.

**October 24** Letter from Michael Cassidy: "You may certainly count on our support at this crucial stage, as we have no intention of giving up after all this time."

**October 25** Letter from Stuart Smith to CGRO: "You can be assured that I will continue to press the government to introduce amendments to the Human Rights Code."

**November 2** Letter from Elgie documenting Commission's informal monitoring of complaints by gay people regarding discrimination: "there were 25 inquiries in 1977, 18 in 1978, 23 in the first three months of 1979."

**November 2** Letter from Cassidy: "You may be sure that our caucus will move the amendments and do everything we can to have them adopted if the government fails to act."

**November 22** First reading of Bill 188, the Handicapped Persons Rights Protection Act, in which the Davis government tries to circumvent opening up the Code to amendment by segregating the rights of handicapped in a separate code.

**December 4** CGRO delegation meets with the full Ontario Human Rights Commission. The new Commission commits itself to support for all 97 recommendations in **Life Together**.

## 1980

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**January 4** Letter from Stuart Smith: "You have my full personal political support for the inclusion of sexual orientation as a part of the Human Rights Code in Ontario."

**January 5** Toronto and District Liberal Association adopts a sexual orientation resolution with respect to the Canadian Human Rights Act.

**July 5** Biannual Convention of the Liberal Party of Canada adopts the same resolution.

"Hundreds of people's career and lives have been grossly endangered by arbitrary police action. Those now standing before you at election time who do not consider that to be a major issue are men and women who do not stand for freedom."

**Laurier Lapierre**  
speaking to a gay freedom rally,  
March 6, 1981.

**November 25** First reading of Bill 209, An Act to Amend the Ontario Human Rights Code.

**December 9** Second reading of Bill 209 begins.

**December 10** Second reading of Bill 209 concludes, the bill is sent to the Social Development Committee for public hearings, and Cassidy tells **Toronto Sun** columnist Claire Hoy that gay rights "are not a priority at this time."

**December 19** Margaret Campbell tells **TBP** that she has no intention of substituting onto the Social Development Committee to put forward an amendment to the Code.

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## 1981

**February 2** Bill Davis calls a provincial election. Bill 209 dies on the order paper.

**March 19** Progressive Conservatives win a majority of seats in the new legislature.

**April 24** Robert Elgie introduces Bill 7, an act to revise and extend Protection of Human Rights in Ontario. It does not include sexual orientation.

**May 14** CGRO demonstration outside Queen's Park. Conservative member Susan Fish and Stuart Smith speak. NDP declines an invitation to send a representative.

**May 15** Second reading of Bill 7. Susan Fish, Liberal member Sheila Copps, and Richard Johnson speak in favour of including sexual orientation.

**May 19** On behalf of the NDP, member Richard Johnson moves amendments to Bill 7 that include sexual orientation.

**May 26** Bill 7 is referred to Standing Committee on Resources Development.



# Public Support for Gay Rights

The Gallup Poll published in June 1977 indicated that 52% of all Canadians supported the extension of civil rights to homosexuals, with 30% opposed. A partial list of religious and secular organizations which have gone on record as opposing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is presented here.

Advisory Council for the Status of Women  
Alberta Human Rights Commission  
Anglican Church of Canada  
Anglican Church of Ontario  
Association of Women Electors of Metro Toronto  
British Columbia Human Rights Commission  
Between the Lines Publishing Co. (Kitchener)  
Campus Ministries Foundation, University of Toronto  
Canadian Association of University Teachers  
Canadian Bar Association  
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation  
Canadian Churchman  
Canadian Civil Liberties Association  
Canadian Council of Christians and Jews  
Canadian Council of Churches  
Canadian Federation of Civil Liberties and Human Rights Associations  
Canadian Labour Congress  
Canadian Psychiatric Association  
Canadian Psychological Association  
Canadian Sociological and Anthropological Association  
Canadian Union of Postal Workers  
Canadian Union of Public Employees — Ontario Division  
Canadian Union of Public Employees — Saskatchewan Division  
CUPE locals: 43, 79, 82, 1230, 1250, 1281, 1582, 1996, 2001, 2189, 2316  
Catalyst Press, Toronto  
Catholics for Social Change  
Centre for Affirmation and Dialogue, Toronto  
Centre for Human Freedom and Sexuality, Toronto  
Christian Movement for Peace  
City of Ottawa  
City of Toronto  
City of Windsor  
CKMS-FM, Radio Waterloo  
Coalition of Provincial Organisations of the Handicapped  
Committee on Human Rights of Sudbury and Region  
Communist Party of Canada  
Communications Workers of Canada locals: 4, 16, 25, 50

"We are accountable to God, ourselves and others, for our sexual behaviour and attitudes, but not for our sexual orientation."

— **In God's Image: Male and Female Task Force on Human Sexuality**  
**United Church of Canada**

"The community we live in has to face up to the fact of gay students and teachers. I'm not necessarily for or against gay rights. I just think that we need better sex education programmes which show that sex, whether gay or straight, is something which involves the whole person. All we get now is purely mechanical information."

Paul Davidson  
Student Council President  
Northern Secondary School  
— **The Body Politic**, October 1980

#### ARTICLE 14.01 SEXUAL PREFERENCE

No one will be barred from, removed from, or discriminated in any way against in employment on the grounds of her or his sexual orientation or preference.

**Union contract  
Dumont Press Graphix  
Kitchener, Ontario**

Following the raids on four Toronto steam-baths in February, 1981, protest demonstrations took place in Rome, Stockholm, and Melbourne, Australia. In Rome, two men chained themselves to the iron railing outside the Canadian embassy. The Dutch ministry of foreign affairs asked its Ottawa embassy for a full report on possible human rights violations arising from the bathhouse raids.

**-International Gay Association  
Dublin, Republic of Ireland**

Concerned Women of Sault Ste Marie  
Council on Homosexuality and Religion  
Dumont Press Graphix, Kitchener  
Edmonton Journal  
Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa  
Episcopal Commission for Social Affairs of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops  
Faculty Association of Carleton Univ., Ottawa  
Faculty Association of Univ. of Ottawa  
Faculty Association of the University of Toronto  
Faculty Association of the University of Waterloo  
Faculty Association of the University of Windsor  
Family Service Association of Metro Toronto  
Federation of Students, Univ. of Waterloo  
Feminist Party of Canada  
First Unitarian Congregation of Metro Toronto  
Friends and Families of Lesbians and Gays (Ontario)  
General Meeting Emmanuel College Student Society (Toronto)  
Globe and Mail (Toronto)  
Hamilton Public Libraries Employees' Association  
Hassle-free clinic (Toronto)  
Hysteria Magazine (Kitchener)  
Institute of Professional Librarians, Toronto  
International Women's Day Committee, Toronto  
Kitchener-Waterloo Human Rights Caucus  
Law Union of Ontario  
Le Droit, Ottawa  
Liberal Party of Canada  
Libertarian Party of Canada  
Montreal Gazette  
National Action Committee on the Status of Women  
National Association of Women and the Law  
Native Women's Centre of Hamilton  
New Democratic Party of Canada  
New Democratic Party of Ontario  
Office and Professional Employees' International Union  
Ontario Conference of Univ. Faculty Associations  
Ontario House of Anglican Bishops  
Ontario Federation of Labour  
Ontario Federation of Students  
Ontario Human Rights Commission  
Ontario Libertarian Party  
Ontario Provincial Council of the Anglican Church of Canada  
Ontario Public Interest Research Group  
Ontario Public Service Employees Union locals: 548, 556, 578, 531  
Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation  
Ontario Status of Women Council  
Oshawa and District Labour Council  
Ottawa-Carleton Women's Centre, Ottawa  
Our Future (publication for the handicapped)



Parents of Gays (Toronto chapter of international group)  
 Parkdale Community Legal Services, Toronto  
 Planned Parenthood Group of Toronto  
 Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada  
 Quebec Human Rights Commission  
 Quebec National Assembly  
 Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission  
 Sex Information and Education Council of Canada (SIECCAN)  
 Sexual Education Centre, Univ. of Toronto  
 Society of Friends (Quakers)  
 South Asians for Equality  
 Student Christian Movement  
 Subcommittee of the Spadina-Bloor-Bathurst Interchurch  
 Council  
 Times Change Women's Employment Service (Toronto)  
 Toronto Board of Education  
 Toronto Star  
 Toronto Teachers' Federation  
 United Church of Canada  
 United Auto Workers (Amalgamated Local 195)  
 Unitarian-Universalist Association of Churches in North America  
 Windsor and District Labour Council  
 Women Against Violence Against Women (Toronto)  
 Women Healthsharing (Toronto)  
 Women Working With Immigrant Women (Toronto)  
 Women's Archives (Toronto)  
 Women's Bookstore (Toronto)  
 Women's Counselling, Referral and Education Centre (Toronto)  
 Women's Liberation Abortion Referral (Toronto)  
 Women's Press (Toronto)  
 Women's Resource Centre, YWCA (Toronto)

American Psychiatric Association

"Whereas homosexuality per se implies no impairment in judgement, stability, reliability or general social or vocational capabilities, therefore be it resolved that the American Psychiatric Association deplores all public and private discrimination against homosexuals in such areas as employment, housing, public accommodation and licensing and declares that no burden of proof of such judgement, capacity, or reliability shall be placed upon homosexuals greater than that imposed on any other persons. Further, the American Psychiatric Association supports and urges the enactment of civil rights legislation at the local, state, and federal levels that would offer homosexual citizens the same protections now guaranteed to others on the basis of race, creed, colour etc..."

"BE IT resolved that every teacher has the right to participate equally in, and have equal opportunity in the teaching profession, regardless of race, colour, creed, political beliefs, private and personal practices, marital status, age, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, grade or subject taught."

**Toronto Teacher's Federation  
 -adopted December 14, 1979**



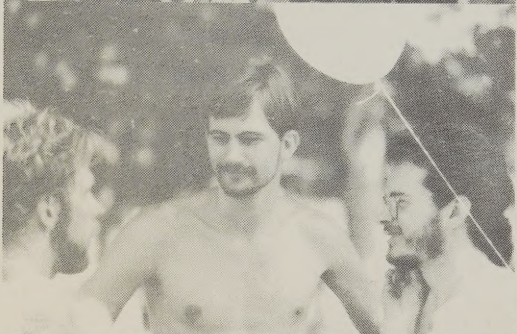
# Member Organizations of the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario



Canadian Gay Archives



Wayne Bell K-W GMC



Canadian Gay Archives



M. Leighton K-W GMC

**Association of Gay Social Service Workers**, Box 182, Station A, Toronto, M4A 2N3

**Dignity (Toronto)**, Box 249, Station E, Toronto M6H 4E2 (group for gay Catholics and friends)

**Gay Academic Union**, c/o Clarence Barnes, Dept of Chemical Engineering, University of Toronto M5S 1A4

**Gay Alliance at York**, c/o CYSF office, 105 Central Square, York University, 4700 Keele Street, Downsview, Ontario M3J 1P3

**Gay Association of Sudbury**, (Association des gais de Sudbury), Box 395, Station B, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 4P6

**Gay Fathers of Toronto**, c/o MCC, 730 Bathurst Street, Toronto M5S 2R4

**Gay Liberation of Waterloo**, c/o Federation of Students, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G1

**Gay Liberation Union**, Box 793, Station Q, Toronto M4T 2N7

**Gays of Ottawa**, (Gais de l'Outaouais), Box 2919, Station D, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5W9

**Gays of Thunder Bay**, Box 2155, Station P, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 1S4

**Gays of Trent and Peterborough**, 262 Rubidge Street, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 3P2

**Gays at U of T**, c/o SAC office, 12 Hart House Circle, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1

**Gay Unity Niagara**, Box 692, Niagara Falls, Ontario L2E 6V5

**Gay Youth Toronto**, 730 Bathurst Street, Toronto M5S 2R4

**GEM Gay Community Outreach**, Box 62, Brampton, Ontario L6V 2K7

**Guelph Gay Equality**, Box 773, Guelph, Ontario N1H 6L8

**Hamilton United Gay Societies**, Box 44, Station B, Hamilton, Ontario L8L 7T5 (includes: Gay Fathers of Hamilton, Gayline Hamilton, Gay Women of Hamilton)

**Homophile Association of London Ontario (HALO)**, 649 Colborne Street, London, Ontario N6A 3Z2

**Integrity (Toronto)**, Box 873, Station F, Toronto M4Y 2N9 (group for gay Anglicans and friends)

**Lesbian and Gay Students on Campus (Windsor)**, c/o SAC office, University of Windsor

**Lambda Gay Youth Hamilton**, Box 44, Station B, Hamilton, Ontario L8L 7T5

**Metropolitan Community Church (Toronto)**, 730 Bathurst Street, Toronto M5S 2R4

**Ontario Gay Teachers' Caucus**, Box 923, Station F, Toronto M4Y 2L8

**Queen's Homophile Association**, c/o SAC, 51 Queen's Crescent, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario K7L 2S7

**Right to Privacy Committee**, c/o MCC, 730 Bathurst Street, Toronto M5S 2R4

**Ryerson Gay Students**, c/o SURPI, Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, 380 Victoria Street, Toronto M5B 1W7

**The Body Politic**, Box 7289, Station A, Toronto M5W 1X9

**Toronto Lambda Business Council**, Box 513, Adelaide Street Station, Toronto M5C 2J6

**Tri-Aid Charitable Foundation**, 8 Irwin Avenue, Toronto M4Y 1K9

**Windsor Gay Unity**, Box 7002, Sandwich Postal Station, Windsor, Ontario N9C 3Y6

**York Rainbow Society of the Deaf**, Box 671, Station F, Toronto M5B 1H8





